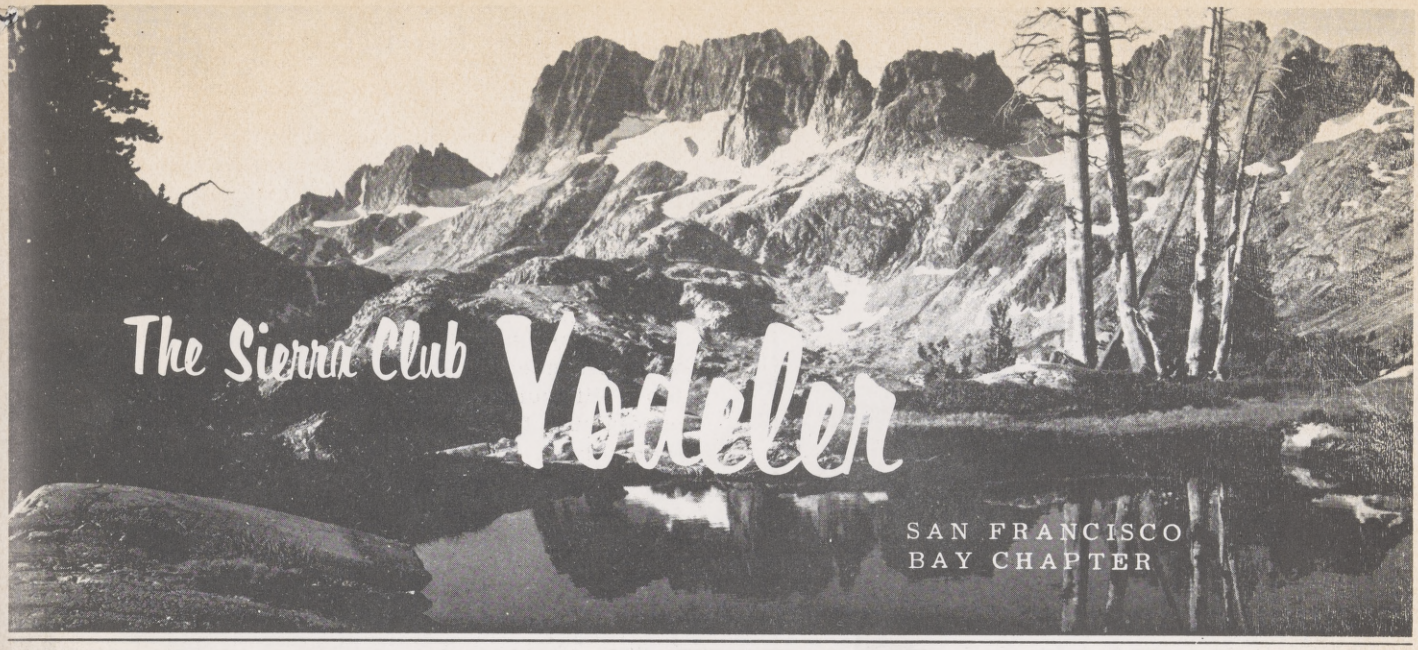

VOLUME XIX JANUARY 7, 1957 NUMBER 1

1957 - WE LOOK BEFORE AND AFTER

The old year ended with good news on the conservation front. The renewal of the permit to build a tramway up Mount San Jacinto was unanimously denied by the State Park Commission. Since the original act required the Winter Park Authority contract with the State Park Commission, the proponents must now go back to the legislature to amend the bill if they insist on promoting the tramway, a far more difficult problem now than it was thirteen years ago. Many conservation groups were represented at the hearing. The legal arguments presented by E. W. Cunningham made a great impression, and the economic analysis made by Nathan Clark showed up the "goldbrick" nature of the project so well that it drew appreciative laughter from the audience.

Far north on the Alaska coast another magnificent area may be preserved. The Forest Service has announced its intention to set aside Tracy Arm--Ford's Terror as a Wilderness Area in the Tongas National Forest. This is 230,000 acres of scenic fiord with glaciers at the waterline and fine coastal forest, "A Yosemite with water". The Ford's Terror is a tidal race against which Polly Dyer says they could hardly row hard enough to stay in the same place. If there is opposition, a public hearing will be called. Many think Alaska is not in need of formal wilderness areas, but the pulp mills are creeping along the coast, and the Forest Service is to be commended for its foresight. We only wish the Endicott Arm could be included in this wilderness area to preserve a fitting entrance from the Inside Passage. (Continued on page 2)

OLD FRIEND IN NEW DRESS

"The format on the last issue is most agreeable. Hope you can continue it regularly. Your issues are interesting, enthusiastic, convincing."

"What an improvement, now you have something which is readable (or more readable)".

We like to get mail like this, which came from Osgood Murdock, and Hilary Crawford, respectively.

Actually the new process was just as much of a surprise to the staff--Barbara excepted--as to any reader. On the last editorial night things seemed to be quite difficult; there were struggles with tracing drawings on stencils, etc.

But Lou Elliott, of the River Tourers, got interested in the situation, and since Lou owns a printing firm, well, things just happened mighty fast, the chapter's high brass approved in record time, and, well, we just hope we can continue with our new YODELER.

--H F

TV VIEWERS NOTE!

On "Bold Journey", March 4th, Georgie White will show movies entitled "Running the Colorado". We think some sierrans who were with Georgie on the trips may recognize themselves. Certainly the river tourers will be interested in this picture, if for no other reason than to keep them in touch with their favorite sport.

YODELER HELP URGENTLY NEEDED

Two months ago we asked for help in addressing cards for the subscription department of the Yodeler. We did not receive a single reply. Are you REALLY that busy? We still need five or six people willing to give one evening a month to the business and production of our newsletter.

Yodeler runs on volunteer help. So, no workers - no Yodeler. If you can offer an evening either regularly or occasionally, please send a card to Cicely Christy at the Sierra Club office, Mills Tower Building. We'll be glad to call you and talk about the jobs that need doing.

SIERRA CLUB YODELER

A semi-monthly publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to: Yodeleditor, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

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Acting Production Chief! ... Elsa Bailey
Printing ..... Lou Elliott

NEXT DEADLINE: Monday, January 21

Volume XIX, No. 1 January 7, 1957

HEAR YE, KNAPSACKERS

As you may have read in the November Sierra Club Bulletin, a new kind of knapsack trip is being offered by the Club Knapsack Committee this summer. We think this is just the kind of outing you have been hoping for. It is designed for people who would like to plan and lead their own trips.

The trips will be limited to ten people plus a leader and will be for eight days. Members will meet with the leader months before the trip to plan the itinerary, menus and equipment. Three of these trips are planned for this year.

Tentative dates, destination, and leaders are as follows:

July 6-14: North Fork, San Joaquin
Wes Bunnelle, OLympic 5-3652
August 3-11: Mono Recesses
Kyle Corson, LA 6-4245
August 17-25: North Fork, San Joaquin
Walt Oppenheimer, OV 1-5536

Remember, it's important to make early contact with the leader. First meetings will probably be held in March. So, if you are interested, please contact the leader of the trip of your choice.

* *

SKI BOOTS WANTED:
Size 7. Call PR 5-0684
(Sorry, we don't know whether they are men's or women's. Call anyway if you're interested.)

(Continued from page 1)

Very much in the present is the fate of Tamalpais State Park. Readers know the effort being made to include Frank Valley and Kent Canyon in the Park, and that it requires a special appropriation over and above that allotted to Tamalpais on the Five-Year Plan. Such a bill will be introduced in the Legislature and your assemblyman will have to vote on it. Call his attention to the future when recreation space will be needed for a doubled population and land far more difficult to buy than it is today. Here is a great opportunity for San Francisco members to express themselves. Which would you rather have--a second-best State Park on the Embarcadero for two million dollars or space for thousands on Tamalpais?

In Tuolumne Meadows the Park Service is now cutting out some of the close growth of trees to make scenic vistas. Machines chop up the unsightly trash to fine chips but the Conservation Committee was disturbed to hear that this waste has been dumped along roadsides so thickly it may smother growth of meadow grass. The Natural Science Committee under its new chairman, Dr. William Graff, was asked to make a study and appropriate recommendations on this.

In the future many bills will bring various aspects of conservation before Congress. The Wilderness Bill has been slightly altered to make it more acceptable. It now limits the advisory council to Bureau chiefs and civilian conservationists, leaving out the legislative members. The Engle bill will be introduced again requiring Congress to approve withdrawals of land over 5,000 acres by the Military Services. Many bills show the increasing interest in wildlife preservation. There are plans to acquire more Wet-lands (a Mission 66 for Wildlife with a ten-year plan hoped for). There will be an attempt to increase cooperation between the agencies dealing with wildlife. More lands to protect the Whooping Cranes will be asked. We shall deal with these more fully as they come into view. One excellent move will be made in our own State Legislature by a bill calling for a State Recreation Survey, which is really a Scenic Resources Review for California. We shall hear more of this later. Meanwhile, Yodelereaders, you can resolve to keep your pens well filled this year. The lawmakers are in session and they keep their ears to the ground.

-- C M C

* *

WANTED:
Ethelinda James (Box 3832, Carmel) wants a second-hand sleeping bag with waterproof cover and a dunnage bag -- 75 inches long -- for a Czech friend in Prague. Any sellers?

FIRST ANNUAL ADVENTURE TO

BARRANCA DEL COBRE

Mexico's rival to the world-renowned Grand Canyon of the Colorado River.

Limited to a small party of qualified or experienced people who have the flexibility to profit from an unscouted adventure into remote and little-known regions. Natural science interests favored.

DATE: March 3-24, 1957 COST: $310

For reservations or information about other wilderness trips, write:

JOSEPH C. WAMPLER
Archeologist - Mountaineer
Box 45
Berkeley, California

NATURAL SCIENCE SEMINAR SUPREME

Here is a chance to combine education (6 units of credit) and culture in the most terrific college course we ever heard of, to be held in (hold your breath) England, Holland, France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

This course includes lectures and residence at famous European Universities, excursions to points of special musical, artistic, theatrical interests, museums and ample free time for personal interest.

Departure is from New York June 21st, returning there August 22nd. This is a non-profit deal which makes possible the very low fee of $1075, which includes Atlantic air fare and practically everything else (except of course excluded items).

For application or information write:

DR. JOEL F. GUSTAFSON
San Francisco State College
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco 27, California

MOUNTAIN EARS HEAR

Well, here it is next year already, and let's see what's new.

Of interest to our many Garfield Folk Dance members is that Cordornices Club House, like 1956, is gone. Built by volunteer labor about 36 years ago--it's now to be demolished as unsafe. Repairs would be prohibitive, and a Berkeley committee is studying whether to rebuild. Meanwhile, Garfielders are folk dancing Wednesdays and Thursdays at Willard School, Ward and Telegraph, Oakland.

We have a nice note from Lyn Wright and Helen Kenmitzer expressing thanks to Ken Goodden for a smashing good walk and challenging pace he set on his December 23 hike, and requesting more such rough, tough tramps.

For the non-highway Gourmet Guide we list Walt Oppenheimer and Oscar Ortiz, and Ferdinand Castillo (summer ranger at Tioga) -- enrollees at a YWCA cooking class for men only. There'll be better eating in the High Sierra this summer.

Winner of the season's first ski incident is Yodeler's own Liz Shea. A tree got in her way on Signal Hill a month ago, and now her right fore-arm is in a cast--the lucky Southpaw.

It was a Merry Christmas for Mary Chamberlin and Charles Townsend -- all they had to do was look forward to their wedding the next day.

About that movie, The Mountain..... The RCS' best climbers if they belayed like Spencer Tracy couldn't have held the fall of a 10-lb potato sack, and would have been pulled off the cliff if they tried. But Spencer, with Hollywood's help, holds a 60-foot free fall from a standing, unanchored position without the rope even around him, and then pulls the climber back up. The rope would burn and cut completely through one's fingers in a fall like that. But the climbing was thrilling, and the lay audience applauded.

Loni Punter, who used to knapsack with us, writes from Switzerland. She hopes, although very indefinite, to perhaps return to San Francisco.

And for those interested in what I did, in case my write-up is crowded out, it was a wonderful Christmas in Virginia.

-- H F

CHRISTMAS PARTY

We -- and 349 others -- attended the Bay Chapter Christmas Party and found it lived up to advance billing. It was a time for meeting old friends (and sometimes their husbands!) and seeing how beautiful our pals of many mountain marathons can look dressed up. Don't know if we men were similarly impressive in suits.

Highlights of the program were the dancing, the entertaining program and the midnight supper. For the dancing, those who came stag found plenty of the other kind also stag, and besides there were the mixers. The program was a "This Is Your Life" skit of the millionth climber (Ian Begg) of Mt. Tamalpais -- far more amusing than Ralph Edwards' program.

We thought the snack more elaborate in other years when the Committee handled refreshments; but if the fare was simpler this year, at least there were no committee members toiling in the kitchen far from the fun of the party.

Many thanks to the Committee, but most of all to Chairman Barbara Tilden, who was often inquiring, "Do you think everybody had a good time?" Yes, Barb, we certainly did -- it was a wonderful party ! !

-- H F

WEST POINT CLUB HOSTESS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1957

*January 12-13	Esther Crites GRaystone 4-1666(Evenings)
January 19-20	Reserved for Berkeley Hiking Club
*January 26-27	Leota and Clarence Gayman HIgate 4-6782 (Any time)
February 2-3	Reserved for Mother Lode Chapter of Sierra Club
February 9-10....	Johanna Wood YUkon 6-2718 (Day time)
*February 16-17...	Eleanore Locey and Estelle Berkhimer THornwall 8-8384 (Evenings)
*February 22-23 24	Grace and Allen Woodward DUnlap 8-2543 (Evenings)

*CENTRAL COMMISSARY

1957 U.S. FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sierrans may not realize that skiing isn't the only way to slide on frozen water. Berkeley Iceland will be the scene of the 1957 United States Figure Skating Championships -- from next March 13 - 16.

Until February 1st, season tickets (the best seats in the rink) will be on sale for $11.00. Single performance seats will not be sold until after that date.

For tickets or information, contact 1957 National Championships, c/o Iceland, Ward and Milvia, Berkeley, Calif.

IN MEMORIAM

We have just learned that our friend, Peter Friedricksen, passed away on December 27th.

His family has requested that those who remember Peter can send a gift to the American Cancer Society.

Peter was in his late 60's or early 70's and, we believe, had attended every Base Camp since its inception. He was Camp Manager of the base camp at Emerald Lake last summer. He joined the Sierra Club in April of 1929.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR THE STAFF

Did you feel the big wind about the middle of December? That, dear readers, was the staff sighing with happy relief that our good Yodeleditor, Barbara Tilden, will continue to edit for at least a few more issues. Editors are born and not made, and Yodeler has been lucky three times in a row (in fact, all its life as far as the oldest inhabitant of the staff can remember). Editing is quite a job, and often quite frustrating but Barbara has a happy knack of making it fun for everyone. We hope she will be able to stay with it as long as it is fun to her, too.

-- YODELER STAFF

FIRST ANNUAL CAL-SIERRA-HEIDLEMAN TROPHY RACE

The first annual running of this new event was held December 30 on Signal Hill. Slalom course of over 18 gates was set by Jim Nicklos, and fore runner of the event was Babbette Heuisen, Silver Belt Trophy winner of 1955. Ken Turner acted as official starter during the two-hour event and is to be congratulated on his fine work. Winner of the trophy is Sierra Club with a minimum time of 269.7, second, Heidleman with 324.5, and third, Cal with 345.0. First in women's division was Smiley Tschopp (Heidleman) at 25.0. First in the men's division was Roger Hackley (Sierra) at 21.5. Sierra Club members' times were as follows:

WOMEN

28.9	Lottie Martens	52.7	Ann Gerry
30.6	Lisa Esherick	53.1	Roberta Codis
32.9	Louise Dunlap	1:10.8	Diane Clayton
39.0	Polly Radcliff	1:26.7	Barbara Miller
46.8	Elsa Bailey	1:36.0	Jody Mills

MEN

21.5	Roger Hackley	32.8	Hans Ostwald
22.0	Don Rehbein	32.9	Bill Pope
23.7	Wilson Talley	33.9	Lyman Nickel
25.7	Jack Douglas	35.7	Ben Pope
25.9	Bob Frick	37.1	Don Huber
29.2	Jim Mullholland	43.0	Russel Hoopes
29.3	Don Rossenburg	43.4	Frank Shoemaker
30.4	George Homsey	54.7	Bob Jessen
30.7	Pete Ostwald	2:41.0	Emil LeCramp
31.3	Paul Grunland	DNF	John Austin
31.3	John Pope		

THE WARMING HUT
This should give you the urge to go up! Photograph by George Homsey

SNOWSHOEING -- OUT OF THIS WORLD

Skiers, take note! There are many to whom winter does not mean secular thrills on wooden slats, or fame through skill or daring. To them belongs the quiet contemplation of Nature in white; the forgetfulness of self in rapturous union with the out-of-doors! Some 35 of these pure-hearted souls appeared with snowshoes at Clair Tappaan Lodge for the week-end of December 15th. Evil thoughts were left behind in San Francisco, and all minds thirsted for the food of natural beauty. On Saturday morning, the first time out, considerable time was spent getting accustomed to the snowshoes, since practically all were novices. The snow was crusted, so in general, hiking was easy.

Our first stop was the Warming Hut, where we left our snowshoes and hiked to the top of Signal Hill. After a look around the countryside, we were back at the Warming Hut for lunch.

Our afternoon hike was over Boreal Ridge. Thirty-five people on snowshoes made quite a bit of racket (get it?). And, as Charlie Orr commented, this would hardly be the way to sneak up on a bunch of Indians. Not a single person panicked when we reached our first steep slope. The more cautious found a lengthy detour. The first adventurer(with bear paws) ran down the hill. Those with racers or tear-drop shoes sat on their shoes and slid down. It was so much fun they did it several times. Doug Petersen chuckled to himself every one of the 20 times he went down. Finally he and Ruth Nea were pulled away from their new game and followed the rest of us.

Upon reaching Azalea Lake, Ben Elkus led a procession of trusting followers across the ice. But after the risk and effort, once across it was time to turn around and go home.

Sunday's hike to Sugar Bowl was a perfect end for the week-end. On this day were graced with the presence of a SKIER. He was unobtrusive until we were forced to scatter for our lives at his shrill cries of TRACK! A few snowshoers discovered how delightful it was to stick their ski pole into the thongs of anyone in front of him, and see how infuriated he would get when he couldn't move his feet.

At a large ridge looking toward Mt. Lincoln, Pauline suggested we stop for lunch. Some stayed, but the die-hards ploughed on up the next couple of summits. As we all ate lunch, we watched skiers battle the vicissitudes of fortune. Que sera sera, we mumbled sleepily in the sun.

On our way back we stopped off at Sugar Bowl Lodge for a look around. Several people, sitting around soaking up sun and beer (a number of them even skied) eyed us with curiosity. After a pleasant stop, we decided not to linger in such a corrupting atmosphere and were on our way again.

Such a wonderful time was had by all that it was agreed to take the long route home. Almost all agreed that they would go on the Peter Grubb trip on January 5th. How uplifting! How sublime!. I am in an ecstasy of memories. -- Doris Brown

CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE NEWS

NEW YEAR'S BEGINNING

Biggest news to start the Winter Ski Season is the recent marriage of Lodge Committee Chairman BOB McGILLICUDDY and SHEILA PURI. Best wishes to both of you.

THE WARMING HUT

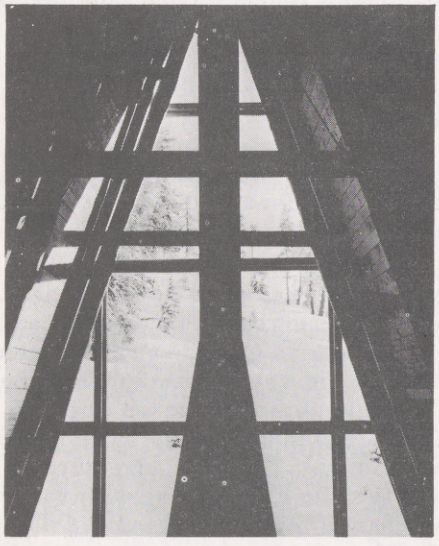

Photo by George Homsey

WARMING HUT CELEBRATION . . . . . One not to be forgotten for awhile, especially by those who rode the jeep back down the hill. A scrumptious buffet was prepared by Frank Shoemaker, Barbara Miller and Tracy Morton. The mulled wine was delicately brewed for hours, sampled by connoisseurs to insure the proper mix and sealed in its cauldron. Then all was transported by special jeep to the Warming Hut. The dancers in the balcony proved beyond doubt the Hut would withstand any and all occasions. Thank you all work party people, and now during the winter season, you may all relax on your priorities.

NEW YEARS AT CTL

A week-end of good skiing and good fun, included the 1st Annual Cal-Sierra-Heidleman Trophy Race, and the New Year's Eve Party, complete with entertainment and mighty tasty eggnog. The show as MC'd by operator Pete Carnegie (tow) and program included such outstanding events as songs by Dr. Wolff, guitar by Mary Hoopes, stirring skits entitled, "Where's Rudy" with Louise Dunlap, Lewis Clark, Emile LaCrampe, Diane Clayton and Rudy Talso. Bernie Bloom and Pete Carnegie starred in "How Low Brown Snow" and so came the New Year at CTL.

* *

WANTED: Ski locker at CTL, not being used.
Please contact YODELER.

* *

SNOW WINNER

We are happy to announce that on December 6, 1956, at 3:00 the snow reached a depth of 30 inches. Winners of the delicate art of weather forecasting are:

1st place: Joseph L. Dudziak
Time: 12-6-56 @ 9:58 P.M.
2nd place: Dorothy Ellis Lane
Time: 12-6-56 @ 7:45 A.M.
3rd place: Lionel S. Mawby
Time: 12-7-56 @ 4:00 A.M.

Congratulations to the 1st place winner! Please contact Rudy Talso at the Lodge for your reward.

HUTCHINSON LODGE

Groups anticipating the use of Hutchinson Lodge should contact Rudy Talso as to availability. The Lodge is completely fixed, scrubbed, stocked with wood and ready to go.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY AT CTL

As is usual on three-day week-ends, a three-day reservation will have preference over two day reservations. However, all three-day reservations must be placed before February 15th.

'SNOWSHOE' CENTENNIAL

The Snowshoe Thomson Centennial Ski Race has been scheduled March 2-3 over the 18-kilometer course between Edelweiss and Heavenly Valley near Lake Tahoe.

The date was set at a recent meeting of the Highway 50 Association, headed by John Hastie, which met in the Edelweiss Ski Hut. Others participating in the meeting are the Sons of Norway, the South Tahoe Ski Club and James W. Marshall Chapter of the Clampers.

FOR SALE

1 pair ski boots, Swiss handmade, men's size 9-1/2 (square toe type) ... $30.00

1 pair skis, Uniteas safety binding $10.00

(the above best sold as one unit, since boots were made to wear with the skis.)

2 pairs - Skating boots, handmade with German Henkel steel blades, black, sizes 8-1/2 and 9-1/2 ..... each $20.00

1 Hawaiian Guitar and case $20.00

TELEPHONE EVENINGS: WAlnut 1-7135